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**Remarks:**

The above amendments and these remarks are responsive to the final Office action dated January 16, 2007. Claims 1, 2, 5-10, 12, 14, 16-20, 22, 23, 26-30, and 34-39 are pending in the application. In the Office action, the Examiner allowed claims 23 and 26-28. Further, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 8, 9, 17-19, 29, 30, 37, and 38 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,181,016 to Lee ("Lee") under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 22 and 39 as being unpatentable over Lee in view of the ordinary skill in the art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The Examiner objected to claims 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 16, 20, and 34-36 for depending from a rejected base claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In view of the amendments above, and the remarks below, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and allowance of the pending claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicants respectfully disagree with the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Lee. However, because the rejections have been made final, applicants defer addressing the merits of the rejections until a subsequent filing.

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Allowed Claims

The Examiner indicated that claims 23 and 26-28 are allowable. Applicants agree with the Examiner's conclusion regarding the patentability of the allowed claims, without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, applicants believe that the claims are allowable because the prior art fails to disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter recited in the allowed claims, independent of how the subject matter of one or more of these claims may be paraphrased or otherwise described.

Objected to Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 16, 20, and 34-36 for depending from a rejected base claim. However, the Examiner indicated that the aforementioned claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, applicants have amended certain claims to put them into independent form as indicated by the Examiner.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in objected to claim 7. Claim 9 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in objected to claim 12. Claim 17 has been amended to recite the subject matter previously recited in objected to claim 20. Claim 29 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in claim 34.

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In view of these amendments, applicants submit that claims 1, 2, 5, 8-10, 14, 16-19, 22, 23, 26-30, 35, and 36 are presently allowable.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 42-46 are newly added and are intended to recite the subject matter of certain objected to claims in independent form. Other newly added claims are in dependant form and depend from claims believed to be currently allowable. None of the newly added claims are believed to add new matter or present any new issues of patentability.

Claim 42 recites in independent form the subject matter recited in objected to claim 2. Claim 43 recites in dependant form the subject matter recited in objected to claim 43 and depends from claim 42. Claim 44 recites, in independent form, the subject matter recited in objected to claim 10. Claim 45 recites, in independent form, the subject matter previously recited in claim 14. Claim 46 recites, in dependant form, the subject matter previously recited in claim 16.

Accordingly, applicants submit that claims 42-46 are allowable in view of the cited prior art and requests allowance of the same.

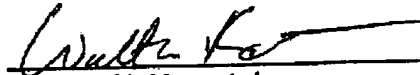
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Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance, in view of the above amendments and remarks. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner C. Mahoney, Group Art Unit 2851, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, at facsimile number (571) 273-8300 on March 15, 2007.



Christie A. Doolittle

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